

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please replace paragraph on page 5, line 17, with the following amended paragraph:

The visual indicator will preferably be applied in the lowest possible concentration, preferably in a volume of at most 0.1 ml, and more preferably in a volume of at most ~~0.04~~ 0.01 ml. However, the preferred volume depends on the type of visual indicator and the type of absorbent product. Typically, the amount of the visual indicator that is used is approximately 0.1 g/cm<sup>2</sup>. The total surface that will be used for application of the visual indicator is typically 1 cm<sup>2</sup>. The visual indicator may be applied in a pattern, such as in stripes, flowers, dots, loops or text that appear when the visual indicator changes colour. The visual indicator may be applied on top of LDA, or preferably in the nonwoven outer sheet (NW) of the absorbent article. It is preferred that the visual indicator is placed on one of the uppermost layers in the absorbent article and that the visual indicator can be detected on the surface of said article. The packaging unit in which the inventive absorbent article is packaged may be transparent, so that the visual indicator can be seen from outside the package.

Please replace the Abstract with the following amended Abstract:

Active additive substances in absorbent articles, such as sanitary napkins, panty liners, tampons, incontinence protectors and diapers, often have limited durability, and have been found to lose their properties and their activity when handled unfavourably. Thus, it is important to be able to determine the activity status of the active additive substance when the absorbent article is used and handled. ~~The present invention relates to an~~ An absorbent article that includes at least one active additive substance and ~~that~~ also comprises a visual indicator which gives an indication of the activity status of said active additive substance.